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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER TABOR, AMARE F				
ART UNIT 2139		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 06/23/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PTOCommunications@hwdpatents.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/785,142

Applicant(s)

ARBAJIAN, PIERRE ELIE

Examiner

AMARE TABOR

Art Unit

2139

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-85/86)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/22/04 & 02/24/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-21 are examined.

Drawings

2. **FIG. 3** is objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show the 'Yes' and 'No' output as described in the specification [see the last paragraph in page 9]. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by O'Flaherty et al. (US 6,275,824 B1), referred as "O'Flaherty" hereinafter

As per Claim 1, O'Flaherty teaches,

A data security system [see abstract], comprising: an implicit clearance system [see FIG.6; **STANDARD VIEW 260 – ROUTINE DSS APPLICATIONS 110 A** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, lines 16-45, "*The **standard view 260** will not present personal data unless either the flag in column 224 (indicating that the personal information and identifying information can be disseminated) or 226 (indicating that personal information can only be disseminated anonymously) is activated. Hence, the **standard view 260** selectively masks personal data from view unless the consumer has had the appropriate flags set to the proper value...*";

an explicit clearance system [see FIG.5; **METADATA MONITORING EXTENSIONS 114** in FIG.1 & FIG.5; **ACCESS LOG 402** in FIG.4; and for example, col.4, lines 37-60, "*....all access to the data stored in the extended database 106 is provided solely through the dataview suite 108... third party applications 112 have access only to such data as permitted by the database view provided... **limiting access** to the data stored in the extended database 106 to access provided by the privacy dataview suite 108 for purposes of (1) implementing privacy rules provides the capability to make the personal data anonymous ... (2) to **restrict access** to opted-out columns, which can apply to all personal data, separate categories of personal data, or individual data columns, and (3) to exclude entire rows (customer records) for opt-out purposes based on customer opt-outs ...*";

a field level clearance system [see FIG.8; **PRIVILEGED VIEW 262 – PRIVILEGED APPLICATIONS 110B** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, line 46 to col.9, line 14, "*The **privileged view 262** permits viewing, analysis, and alteration of all information. The privileged view 262 will be supplied*

only to privileged ...and to those applications which handle privacy related functions ...example, the client interface module 212, which is used to view, specify, and change consumer privacy preferences, is a privileged application. Appropriate security measures are undertaken to assure that the privileged applications are suitably identified as such, and to prevent privileged view 262 access by any entity that is not so authorized..."; and

a data anonymization system [see FIG.7; **ANONYMIZING VIEW – ANALYTICAL APPLICATIONS 110C** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.9, lines 15-54, "*The anonymizing view 264 permits the viewing and analysis of personal information, but screens the information stored in the identity information portion 204 from view or analysis unless the flag in the column 224 ...is selected...permit data mining and ad-hoc queries. If the consumer permits, this information may also be provided to third party applications 112...*".

As per Claim 12, O'Flaherty teaches,

A program product stored on a recordable medium for providing data security, the program product comprising: means for selectively requiring a user to have explicit permission in order to access a set of data [see FIG.5; **METADATA MONITORING EXTENSIONS 114** in FIG.1; **ACCESS LOG 402** in FIG.4; and for example, col.4, lines 37-60];

means for requiring the user to meet any one of a set of implicit conditions in order access the set of data [see FIG.6; **STANDARD VIEW 260 – ROUTINE DSS APPLICATIONS 110 A** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, lines 16-45];

means for limiting access to data records by restricting the user to a predefined view [see FIG.8; **PRIVILEGED VIEW 262 – PRIVILEGED APPLICATIONS 110B** in FIG.2A]; and for example, col.8, line 46 to col.9, line 14, wherein the predefined view displays a predetermined set of data fields from the data records [see CUSTOMER TABLES in FIGS.2A-3C]; and

means for replacing a data element in a data record with a unique identifier in order to create an anonymous data record [see FIG.7; **ANONYMIZING VIEW – ANALYTICAL APPLICATIONS 110C** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.9, lines 15-54].

As per Claim 17, O'Flaherty teaches,

A method for providing data security, comprising: selectively replacing data elements in data records with unique identifiers as the data records are being stored in a data warehouse in order to create anonymous data records [see FIG.7; **ANONYMIZING VIEW – ANALYTICAL APPLICATIONS 110C** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.9, lines 15-54];

selectively requiring a user to have explicit permission in order to access a set of the data records [see FIG.5; **METADATA MONITORING EXTENSIONS 114** in FIG.1; **ACCESS LOG 402** in FIG.4; and for example, col.4, lines 37-60];

requiring the user to meet any one of a set of implicit conditions in order access the set of the data records if explicit clearance is not required [see FIG.6; **STANDARD VIEW 260 – ROUTINE DSS APPLICATIONS 110 A** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, lines 16-45]; and

limiting access to data records by restricting the user to a predefined view [see FIG.8; **PRIVILEGED VIEW 262 – PRIVILEGED APPLICATIONS 110B** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, line 46 to col.9, line 14], wherein the predefined view displays a predetermined set of data fields from the data records [see **CUSTOMER TABLES** in FIGS.2A-3C].

As per Claim 2, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the implicit clearance system comprises a mechanism for setting up a plurality of filters for a set of data [see FIGS.2A-3C – *where O'Flaherty discloses plurality of filters 210, 212, SECURITY INFORMATION – CAT1, CAT2, CAT3*], and wherein a user is granted permission to the set of data if the user meets a condition of at least one filter [see for example, col.2, lines 57-67].

As per Claim 3, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the set of data is selected from the group consisting of: a row of data [see **EXTENDED-RULES-TRUSTED-ANONYMIZED DATABASE** in FIGS. 1, 9 and 10], a data table [see **CUSTOMER TABLES** in FIGS.2A-3C], and a data field [see **CUSTOMER BASE TABLES** in FIG.11].

Claim 6 is rejected for the same reasons applied to the rejection of Claim 3.

As per Claim 4, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the implicit clearance system comprises a table for each filter, wherein each table lists all user ID's that meet the condition of an associated filter [see CUSTOMER TABLES in FIGS.2A-3C – *where O'Flaherty discloses ID's; e.g., ACCT NO. associated with filters 210, 212, SECURITY INFORMATION – CAT1, CAT2, CAT3*].

As per Claim 5, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the explicit clearance system comprises a mechanism for requiring explicit permission to an area of data [see FIG.5; **METADATA MONITORING EXTENSIONS 114** in FIG.1; **ACCESS LOG 402** in FIG.4; and for example, col.4, lines 37-60], and wherein a user is granted permission to the area of data only if explicit permission has been granted [see for example, col.2, lines 57-67, "... a database management system, for storing and retrieving data from a plurality of database tables wherein the data in the database tables is controllably accessible according to privacy parameters stored in the database table, ... and controlling access to the data within the database tables according to the privacy parameters, and ... for validating enforcement of the data privacy parameters in the database management system"].

As per Claim 7, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the explicit clearance system comprises: an explicit areas table that defines all areas of data that require explicit clearance [see FIG.5; **METADATA MONITORING EXTENSIONS 114** in FIG.1; **ACCESS LOG 402** in FIG.4; and for example, col.4, lines 37-60]; and a set of ID tables that define those users who have explicit clearance for each of the areas requiring explicit permission [see CUSTOMER TABLES in FIGS.2A-3C].

Claims 13 and 18 are rejected for the same reasons applied to the rejection of Claim 7.

As per Claims 8 and 9, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the field level clearance system controls access to data types by restricting a user to a predefined view [see FIG.8; **PRIVILEGED VIEW 262 – PRIVILEGED APPLIACTIONS 110B** in FIG.2A; and for example, col.8, line 46 to col.9, line 14], wherein the predefined view displays a predetermined set of data fields; and wherein the field level clearance system includes a set of data type tables that dictates data types available to each of a plurality of users [see FIGS.2A-3C].

As per Claims 10 and 11, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the anonymization system provides a mechanism for replacing a data element in a data record with a unique identifier in order to keep the data record anonymous; and a reference table for each data field that is to be kept anonymous, wherein each reference table includes a list of anonymized data elements and an associated unique identifier; and a mechanism for generating a new unique identifier for a data element that does not exist in the list of anonymized data elements [see **OPT-OUT VIEW 266** in FIG.2B and FIGS.3C and 11 –*where O'Flaherty discloses anonymization techniques and plurality of viewing modes*].

Claims 16 and 21 are rejected for the same reasons applied to the rejection of Claim 11.

As per Claim 14, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the means for requiring the user to meet any one of a set of implicit conditions comprises means for storing a set of acceptable user ID's for each of the implicit conditions [see CUSTOMER TABLES in FIGS.2A-3C – *where O'Flaherty discloses ID's; e.g., ACCT NO. associated with filters 210, 212, SECURITY INFORMATION – CAT1, CAT2, CAT3*].

Claim 19 is rejected for the same reasons applied to the rejection of Claim 14.

As per Claim 15, O'Flaherty teaches,

wherein the means for limiting access to a data record includes means for associating each of a plurality of users with one of the predefined views [see **STANDARD-PREVIEWED-ANONYMIZED-OPTOUT VIEWS** in FIGS.2A-3A, 3C and 11].

Claim 20 is rejected for the same reasons applied to the rejection of Claim 15.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (See PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMARE TABOR whose telephone number is (571)270-3155. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Kristine Kincaid/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2139